

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350

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Ser0057

SECRET (Downgrade to CONFIDENTIAL upon removal of Enclosures (1) and (2))

From: Director, Western Pacific and Indian Ocean Bases Study Group
To: Central Intelligence Agency

Subj: Assistance in quantifying intelligence estimate and projections;
request for

Encl: (1) Copy of Chapter I, Political-Military Analysis (Sections A-F),
WESPAC and Indian Ocean Bases Study
(2) Quantification of Probability that Certain Events Will Occur
During the Period 1967-1980

1. In the study of future U. S. Navy base requirements in the Western Pacific and Indian Ocean area, it is essential to analyze various options. The analysis involves consideration of the cost and effectiveness of alternative base structures to support naval forces responding to contingency operations. Critical to the latter is an assessment of the threat, not only that posed by Communist countries in the area but also of civil strife and intra-area hostilities.

2. But the likelihood of various threats must be quantified in order to be used in the numerical calculation of comparative advantages among the several alternative basing structures. Obviously this can at best be a subjective intuitive representation, and your views will be taken (and used) in this manner. Of greatest interest will be a comparison of the general magnitude of probability ascribed by the intelligence officers concerned with these geographic areas. We will be most interested should there be a substantial difference of view, e. g. a variation between 40% and 70% probability on the question of whether conflict is likely to occur in the Indian Ocean area.

3. Attached are two documents:

a. Enclosure (1) is a copy of Chapter I of the Interim Report, containing the general view of the two ocean areas which form the basis for our analysis.

b. Enclosure (2) is a list of potential threats, the probability of occurrence of which we would like you to record for us. Your answer is desired on an informal basis, to test the estimates made by members of the study group.

NAVY DECLASSIFICATION/RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS ON FILE

TAZEWELL SHEPARD, JR.
Captain USN
Director, Western Pacific and
Indian Ocean Bases Study Group

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